

Message Text

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46 S
ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NEA-06 SSO-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00

INR-10 INRE-00 CIAE-00 RSR-01 RSC-01 /046 W
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O 280920 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECDEF NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7012
DA
CSAF
CNO

S E C R E T KUWAIT 2267

LIMDIS

FROM HOENIG FOR DSAA/ VADM PEET

DOD HANDLE AS SPECAT

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS KU

SUBJ: FMS ACTIVITY KUWAIT - WASHINGTON PRIORITIES

1. (C) PER HOENIG/ DSAA PHONCON 28 JUNE, WE ARE SUMMARIZING
ACTIONS WHICH WE BELIEVE WASHINGTON CAN TAKE TO ASSIST US IN
FURTHERING SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF TOTAL KUWAIT PROGRAM. CASE
BY CASE ANALYSIS COVERED IN HOENIG REPORT SIX. (KUWAIT 2260.

2. (S) WASHINGTON SUGGESTED ACTION IN ORDER OF PRIORITY LISTED
BELOW:

A. PRIORITY I:

(1) M-60 A1 DEMONSTRATION IN KUWAIT: ACCORDING TO GOK ARMOR OFFICER,
DEMONSTRATION IN FRG EARLIER THIS YEAR DID NOT PRESENT FULL
CAPABILITIES OF M-60 TANK FOR REASONS ALLUDED IN REPORTS FIVE AND
SIX. DOD/ STATE SHOULD LAY GROUNDWORK FOR QUICK REACTION TO PROVIDE
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AIRLIFT AND FIRING DEMONSTRATION OF M-60 A1 (WITH ADD- ON STABALIZATION NOT DEMONSTRATED PREVIOUSLY). NO FIRM IMPLEMENTATION ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN UNTIL AMBASSADOR HAS HAD CHANCE TO DETERMINE

FROM MINDEF SAAD PRECISELY OUR COMPETITIVE POSITION AND WHETHER A DEMO IS REQUIRED. DA SHOULD BE PREPARED FOR QUICK REACTION FOR FINAL DECISION WHICH INCLUDES TANK, AMMO, AND PERSONNEL SELECTION TO BE READY FOR MOVEMENT. CSAF SHOULD BE PREPARED TO ASSIGN HIGH PRIORITY TO INSURE AVAILABILITY OF AIRCRAFT.

(2) FOLLOW- ON AIRCRAFT: THE AMBASSADOR STILL OWES MINDEF SAAD AN OFFICIAL ANSWER ON FOLLOW- ON ACFT TO BE SUPPLIED BY USG. WASHINGTON HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO RESPOND TO THIS QUERY ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS AND IS AWARE OF THIS URGENT REQUIREMENT. WE SUGGEST THAT REPLY BE COUCHED IN FOLLOWING TERMS: QUOTE THE USG IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE THE F-4 OR OTHER SUITABLE FOLLOW- ON AIRCRAFT FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF KUWAIT. UNQUOTE. OUR RATIONALE FOR THIS PHRASEOLOGY IS FOUNDED IN OUR BELIEF THAT THE F-4 IS PROBABLY NOT THE ULTIMATE AIRCRAFT DESIRED BY THE GOK. IN THE NEAR TIME FRAME THE F-8 WILL PROBABLY REPLACE THE LIGHTNINGS AS THE SOLE AIR SUPERIORITY/INTERCEPTOR ACFT. LATER THE HUNTERS WILL BE REPLACED BY A GROUND ATTACK ACFT SUCH AS THE A-7. FINALLY IN THE EARLY EIGHTIES THE F-8 WILL BE REPLACED BY A CURRENT STATE- OF- THE- ART HIGH PERFORMANCE AIRCRAFT. WE THEREFORE BELIEVE IT IMPRUDENT TO LIMIT THE USG TO A ONE AIRCRAFT POSITION.

(3) ADVISORY- MILITARY TEAM
CHIEF: EXPEDITED ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN TO ASSIGN THE TEAM CHIEF TO KUWAIT AT THE EARLIEST DATE. WE WILL HAVE A PROGRAM HERE; HOWEVER, THE EQUIPMENT MIX IS NOT COMPLETELY KNOWN AT THIS TIME. OUR CURRENT ACTIVITIES WOULD PROVIDE INVALUABLE BACKGROUND FOR THIS OFFICER AND PROGRAM CONTINUITY.

(4) NINETY MM GUN AND TURRET FOR CG APC: EXPEDITE ACTION FOR DEMONSTRATION OF THIS EQUIPMENT. KUWAIT 2259 REFERS.

B. PRIORITY II

(1) M-800 SERIES TRUCKS: KUWAIT 2163 REFERS.

(2) LEASE PRICE FOR F-8 H: WE RECOMMEND A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION IN THE LEASE PRICE ALREADY QUOTED. CONCEIVABLY THIS COULD BE
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DONE BY BASING LEASE PRICE ON FIFTEEN PERCENT RESIDUAL VALUE OF F-8 WHEN ORIGINALLY MODIFIED TO F-8 HOTEL CONFIGURATION AND FOUR THOUSAND HOUR WING ADDED PLUS COST OF THIS AND SUBSEQUENT INVESTMENT AMORTIZED OVER TEN YEAR PERIOD TO DERIVE LEASE PRICE OF ABOUT

\$160 K RPT \$160 K PER ACFT PER YEAR. WE DO NOT THINK THE GOK WILL OPT FOR A LEASE ARRANGEMENT, NOR DO WE INTEND TO ACTIVELY PURSUE THIS APPROACH. HOWEVER, IT COULD BE USED AS A TRADE-OFF FOR TANKS, HAWK OR WHATEVER IF THE OCCASION CALLS FOR SOME NEGOTIATING ROOM.

(3) EMBASSY AUGMENTATION: SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF MILITARY PROGRAM OF THIS MAGNITUDE WILL HAVE A CONSIDERABLE IMPACT ON A SMALL EMBASSY STAFF. OF IMMEDIATE CONCERN ARE: A) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT (CLEARED SECRETARIES AND ESPECIALLY SECURE COMMUNICATIONS); B) EMBASSY LEASED HOUSING; C) TRANSPORTATION; D) BUDGET AND FISCAL CONSIDERATIONS. EFFECT WILL COME FROM INTRODUCTION OF ADVISORY MILITARY TEAM AND FROM ENVISIONED INCREASE IN AMERICAN COMMUNITY SIZE, AS WELL AS EQUIPMENT.

(4) PUBLICITY: PAST PUBLICITY ON THIS PROGRAM HAS RESULTED IN NUMEROUS UNSOLICITED VISITS BY U. S. AND EUROPEAN CONTRACTORS AS WELL AS OTHER GOVERNMENTS MARKETING AGENCIES IN EFFORTS TO PEDDLER THEIR WARES. THIS HAS SLOWED DOWN THE GOK TECHNICAL PROGRAM EVALUATION AND IS DISTURBING TO THE GOK TECHNICAL STAFF. WHILE THE DAMAGE IS DONE, WE BELIEVE NO FURTHER PUBLICITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THIS PROGRAM UNTIL IT IS FINALIZED.

(5) EMBASSY CONCURS.
MCLELLAND

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS
*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KUWAIT02267
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730632/aaaajtar.tel
Line Count: 148
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <14-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980304
Subject: FMS ACTIVITY KUWAIT - WASHINGTON PRIORITIES
TAGS: MASS, KU
To: DOD INFO CNO
CSAF
STATE
USA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005